CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A document processing apparatus comprising:

2   a display;

3   a plurality of user-accessible input points configured to generate input point

4   signals in response to being accessed by a user;

5   an electronic readable memory device comprising descriptions of selected

6   ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points in a plurality of languages; and

7   a processor configured to associate an input point signal from an input point

8   with a corresponding description of the input point in a preselected one of the

9   plurality of languages and to display the description on the display.

1   2.   The apparatus of claim 1, and further wherein the display is

2   configured to display the description in a dot matrix text format.

1   3.   The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein:

2   the electronic readable memory device is characterized by memory address

3   locations;

4   descriptions of the user-accessible input points are associated with selected

5   memory address locations;

6   the memory address locations of the preselected language are stored in a

7   separate description memory address location; and

8   the processor is configured to associate the descriptions of the input points

9   by accessing the description memory address location.

1   4.   The apparatus of claim 3, and further comprising an access

2   connection in communication with the processor, the access connection configured

3   to receive signals from an external access device to thereby store the memory

4   address locations of the preselected language in the separate description memory

5   address location, and wherein the external access device does not comprise part

6   of the document processing apparatus, and further wherein the memory address

7   locations of the preselected language can only be stored in the separate description

8   memory address location by the external access device.

1   5.   The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an electronic timer,

2   and wherein:

3   in response to being accessed by a user, an input point generates the input

4   point signal for a duration of time equal to the time the input point is accessed;

5   the electronic timer is configured to measure the duration of time the input

6   point is accessed;

7   and, the processor is further configured to associate the input point signal

8   with the corresponding description of the input point in the preselected language

9   when a preselected duration of time is measured by the timer.

1   6.   The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein one of the selected ones of the

2   user input points comprises a user assist input point, and wherein the

3   corresponding description of the user assist input point in the preselected language

4   is a message informing the user how to access descriptions of the remaining

5   selected ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points.

1   7.   The apparatus of claim 6, and further wherein the processor is

2   configured such that, when the user assist input point and one of the remaining

3   selected ones of the input points are simultaneously accessed by a user, the

4   description in the preselected language which is displayed by the processor is the

5   description of the one of the remaining selected ones of the input points.

1   8.   The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an electronic timer,

2   and wherein the electronic timer is configured to measure the duration of time the

3   description of the input point is displayed, and the processor is further configured

4   to stop the display of the description when a preselected duration of time is

5   measured by the timer.

1   9.   The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an access

2   connection in communication with the processor, the access connection configured

3   to receive signals from an external access device to thereby determine the

4   preselected language.

1   10.   The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein the selected ones of the user

2   input points are defined by a first group of user input points and a second group of

3   user input points, and wherein the first group of user input points comprises a first

4   user assist input point, the second group of user input points comprises a second

5   user assist input point, and wherein the corresponding description of the first user

6   assist input point in the preselected language is a message particular to the first

7   group of user input points, and the corresponding description of the second user

8   assist input point in the preselected language is a message particular to the second

9   group of user input points.

1   11.   A method for displaying local language descriptions of a plurality of

2   user accessible input points of a document processing apparatus, comprising:

3   providing, on a machine readable medium and in the local language, a

4   plurality of descriptions of user input points corresponding to the plurality of user

5   accessible input points; and

6   in response to a user accessing an input point, accessing the local language

7   description of the user input point which corresponds to the user input point, and

8   displaying to the user the local language description of the user input point.

1   12.   The method of claim 11, and further comprising providing a plurality
2   of descriptions of the user input points in a plurality of languages; and
3   selecting the local language descriptions of the user input points as
4   descriptions to be accessed in response to a user accessing an input point.

1   13.   The method of claim 11, and wherein the local language description
2   of the user input point is only displayed after the user has accessed the user input
3   point for a predetermined period of time.

1   14.   The method of claim 11, and further comprising ceasing to display to
2   the user the local language description of the user input point after a predetermined
3   period of time.

1   15.   The method of claim 11, and further comprising ceasing to display to
2   the user the local language description of the user input point when the user
3   accesses another user input point.

1   16.   The method of claim 11, and further comprising:
2   designating a selected one of the user input points as a user assist input
3   point; and
4   wherein the description of the user assist input point comprises instructions
5   to the user for accessing descriptions of the remaining user input points.

1   17.   The method of claim 16, and wherein, when a user input point other
2   than the user assist input point is accessed by the user, the local language
3   description of the user input point is displayed only after the user has accessed the
4   user input point for a predetermined period of time, and when a user simultaneously
5   accesses the user assist input point and a second user input point, the description
6   displayed is the local language description of the second user input point.

1   18.   A document processing apparatus comprising:

2   a display;

3   a plurality of user-accessible input points configured to generate input point

4   signals in response to being accessed by a user;

5   an electronic readable memory device comprising descriptions of selected

6   ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points in a local language; and

7   a processor configured to associate an input point signal from an input point

8   with a corresponding description of the input point in the local language and to

9   display the description on the display.

1   19.   The apparatus of claim 18, and wherein each of the selected ones of

2   the user input points are identified to the user by a corresponding marking in

3   proximity to the associated user input point, and wherein the markings are not local

4   language descriptions of the user input points.

1   20.   The apparatus of claim 18, and wherein one of the selected ones of

2   the user input points comprises a user assist input point, and wherein the

3   corresponding description of the user assist input point in the local language is a

4   message informing the user how to access local language descriptions of the

5   remaining selected ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points.